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## SOURCE

1. The newly founded State Geological Commission (Staatliche Geologische Kommission, abbreviated SGK) has its administrative offices in the Geologische Landesanstalt at 44 Invalidenstrasse in Berlin. The telephone number is 42 39 31. The executive personnel includes State Secretary (sic) Schober, about 42 years of age, who was an SED functionary. From 1945 to 1948, Schober was personal "Referent" in the Central Administration for Industry under its former President Leo Skrzypczynski and later under Fritz Selbmann; from 1948 to 1950, he was department chief in the Ministry of Planning, Main Department for Science and Technology. His deputy, Benno Schroeder, department chief of the production department, is a former bookkeeper, about 48 years old, who was an executive (Prokurist) of the Gebhard & Koenig (pit construction firm) in Nordhausen (N 52/D 12) until 1946. After the transfer of this firm to the VVB Genko, Schroeder was manager of this enterprise until 1950 or 1951. Schroeder, an SED member, is a diligent and prudent merchant with western leanings. Reiche, (fnu), chief of the planning department, is a former bank clerk, about 50 years old, who was "Referent" in the Geologische Landesanstalt until 1950 and is also an SED member. In addition to prospecting and investigating mineral deposits, the State Geological Commission supervises deep drilling and mine construction. \*
2. The Geologische Landesanstalt (GLA) at 44 Invalidenstrasse in Berlin is subordinate to the State Geological Commission. The manager of the GLA is Professor Dr. Lange. He is about 67 years old and is considered to be incompetent in scientific matters. Lange has been an active KPD member since 1918 and presumably is trusted by the MVD. From 1945 to 1948 he was Landtag Deputy in Dresden (N 52/F 29). In 1946, Lange was appointed manager of the Freiberg branch of the GLA by President Dr. Ferdinand Friedensburg. In 1947, he became manager of the Berlin GLA. Lange is an implacable adversary of Gustav Sobottka. The GLA was placed under the control of the SGK because Professor Dr. Lange was not believed to be competent. There are branches of the Geologische Landesanstalt in Freiberg, Saxony (N 51/K 97), Jena (M 51/J 66), and Halle/Saale (N 52/D 92), and there are Research Institutes in Eberswalde (N 53/V 08) and Koethen (M 52/D 95). \*\*
3. The Geophysical Service in Leipzig is managed by Fischer (fnu). On 22 March 1951 Dr. Bitter (fnu) succeeded Dr. Horwarth (fnu), as deputy of Fischer. Dr. Horwarth fled to West Berlin late in March 1951.

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4. The Gesko was dissolved on 31 March 1951. The former VEB Schachtbau und Tiefbohrungen ( Mine Construction and Deep Drilling Operations) in Nordhausen was subdivided into three enterprises which were subordinate to the SGK. The first of these enterprises, the VEB Ausruestung ( Equipment ) in Nordhausen, assumed most of the functions of the former Gesko, including that of supplying drilling implements and accessories as well as drilling machines and equipment to all test drilling, mining, and prospecting operations. The two remaining enterprises are the VEB Schachtbau und Verfestigung ( Mining Construction and Consolidation) in Nordhausen and the VEB Waggonbau und Ausbesserungswerkstaetten ( Railroad Car Construction and Repairshops) in Nordhausen.
5. Preparatory work for crude oil deep drilling has been intensified. Some heavy drilling implements which had been stored in various depots of the SAG Kali in Thuringia were assembled in Nordhausen to be used in drilling to depths of 2,000 meters. Also, the USSR has supplied extra-heavy drilling equipment to be used for depths ranging from 1,500 to 2,000 meters. Prospecting for ore has also been intensified. Prospecting for beryllium, especially in the Erz-Gebirge, did not produce any results. By order of the SGK, beryllium prospecting activities will be pushed. The geologist Dr. Krzewicki, of the Geologische Landesanstalt in Berlin, who is about 44 years old and is not a Communist, is considered an expert in the field of mineralogical research, especially in Central Germany. The SGK also took over the management of operations in Dobrilugk-Kirchhain ( N 52/A 05). The technical manager, retired mining engineer ( Bergassessor) Waldeck (fnu), was pensioned at the age of 67 years. The drilling operations in Dobrilugk-Kirchhain have progressed slowly. A considerable influx of water was found at a depth of 200 meters. So far, only small coal chips have been found. The main seam, which was found during geological deep drilling in 1925, has not yet been opened. The coal deposits probably consist only of nests and will not be worth mining. \*\*\*

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- \* Comment. Fritz Selbmann is Minister of Heavy Industry in the Soviet Zone of Germany. The VVB (Z) Gesko is an abbreviation of "Vereinigung Volkseigener Gerate- und Schachtbaubetriebe der Kohlenindustrie" ( Association of nationalized enterprises for the manufacture of coal mining equipment and the construction of mines). The VVB (Z) Gesko consisted of 12 plants which produced mining machinery.
- \*\* Comment. Gustav Sobottka was manager of the Coal Department in the Ministry of Industry until the middle of May 1951. He was allegedly charged with sabotage and dismissed from this position because he refused to introduce Soviet working methods and to employ children.
- \*\*\* Comment. Mining of the coal deposits near Dobrilugk-Kirchhain began in 1950. The coal deposits near Zwickau will soon be exhausted. The Dobrilugk-Kirchhain coal reserves are, therefore, of special importance to the Soviet Zone of Germany because they will be the only remaining coal deposits in the Soviet Zone.

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